



Instructional Technology Newsline

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Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Instructional Technology Staff
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[http://www.dese.state.mo.us/divimprove/inststech/
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Instructional Technology Update

Within the past week, I attended and participated in two of the Department's Federal Grants Management workshops to discuss Title programs under the ESEA reauthorization, No Child Left Behind (NCLB). This federal act encourages districts to consolidate efforts and funds to support research-based programs and strategies that improve student achievement. Likewise, the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) reviews districts to see that curricula are aligned with state standards, district goals, instructional strategies, assessment activities, and professional development. And, the enhancing Missouri's Instructional Networked Teaching Strategies (eMINTS) Program provides extensive professional development to help teachers teach district curricula through the use of technology and research-based, effective teaching strategies. These programs are about improving student achievement by helping schools become "fully integrated".

The 2002 Missouri Education Technology Strategic Plan follows suit. Instead of looking at technology (or any program or funding source) in isolation, the focus is on the end goal academic achievement. The plan builds on the MSIP and eMINTS programs and addresses the NCLB challenges, by helping districts integrate technology into student learning and achievement, teacher preparation and delivery of instruction, and district management, administration and communications; it stresses equitable distribution of resources and adequate support of those resources. The new plan sets high standards that, if followed, should help all students achieve. – Deb

FY02 Instructional Technology Grant Programs

STATE EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

FY 2002 -- All Final Expenditure Reports (FERs) must be filed by May 15!. With approval of the FERs, districts can receive up to 5% more of the VIDEO grant and 25% of TAG and IDL grant funds. The TAG/VIDEO FERS are to be submitted online; the IDL FER is a paper form (page 54 in the red grants manual).

FY 2003 – The House and Senate education budgets were not the same, so now a conference committee must work out the differences. Hopefully, the budget will be worked out later this week and we will be able to give you more definitive information. In the meantime, here are best- and worst-case scenarios. At best, the VIDEO program would receive \$600,000; at worst, no funding. At best, the TAG grants would be cut by 10-15%; at worst, 30%. At best, we would be able to fully fund second-year IDL grants; at worst, these grants could be cut by 30%.

⚡⚡ VIDEO applications are on hold until the funding situation is resolved.

⚡⚡ IDL applications for a second year of implementation are due June 15.

⚡⚡ TAG applications will be accepted May 15-September 15.

⚡⚡ Note that application uses the current funding formula. Once appropriations are set, districts will be notified regarding the amount or percentage of funds to be withheld.

⚡⚡ Grants will have July 1, 2002, "substantially approved" dates. Districts may start encumbering funds on July 1, but are cautioned to spend no more than 70% of their allocation.

⚡⚡ Note that, for this year only, **districts may encumber FY03 TAG funds prior to July 1 if necessary to participate in the state contract program for Internet filtering.**

FEDERAL EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

FY 2002 -- TLECF projects are funded through September 30; however, recipients can submit FERS prior to September if funds have been expended. FERS are to be submitted online and are due no later than October 15.

FY 2003 -- The Title II D appropriation, of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), will be based on more recent census statistics than the other programs and won't be known until May. However, Missouri expects to receive approximately \$9 million. It is anticipated that the DOE will hold ten percent of the funds for non-public school participation. After the Department's five percent for administration, that leaves 85% to be distributed to districts. Of these funds, half will be distributed to districts via a formula that mirrors the Title I distribution. The remaining funds are to be distributed to high-need schools via competitive grants.

Formula Grants -- If you attended one of the Federal Grants Management (FGM) workshops, you know that the FGM section will handle the approval of the Title II D formula grants. As such, the application will be part of FGM's consolidated application. However, the responsibility for monitoring and assisting districts in becoming compliant with the new program guidelines will rest with the Instructional Technology section. This will be accomplished in several ways:

- ✍ ✍ When completing the Title II formula grant application, districts will be referred to their state TAG grant application. The TAG will now address the district's consolidated technology efforts. This information will help us determine how technology is being addressed in the district and with what funding sources. Note that both grant programs have a professional development requirement.*
- ✍ ✍ In order to receive funding, districts are to have technology plans that address the program's goals and purposes. Districts will be given one year to have such plans in place. Note that the technology plans approved under the Department's 2002 scoring guide meet this requirement. [See our web site to find the new Missouri state technology plan and local technology planning information and requirements.]*
- ✍ ✍ The annual Census of Technology (COT) helps the Department show progress along numerous criteria, including those required by the NCLB. COT is collected during the April cycle of Core Data.*

Competitive Grants -- Missouri's Title II D competitive funds will be used to expand eMINTS into additional districts. Two mailings have been sent to districts (April 17 and May 1) that explain the II D-funded eMINTS program. [This correspondence can also be found on our web site under "From the Director's Desk".] Following are some of the major requirements / issues.

- ✍ ✍ With federal funding available and because of tight state coffers, districts participating in the eMINTS program will be responsible for all technology and training costs.*
- ✍ ✍ The competitive program will offer two-year grants of up to \$100,000 and \$50,000 respectively. Applications are due May 24.*
- ✍ ✍ Eligible applicants include districts that rank in the upper half in terms of the number and/or percentage of children living in poverty AND districts not already participating in the eMINTS program.*
- ✍ ✍ Approval will be based on the merit of the written application (50%), high-need statistics (30%), and on technology need statistics (20%). Geographic area and slots available will also determine approval.*

A Title II D eMINTS Workshop will be held on May 16, from 10:00 AM until 12:00 Noon, in the Ballroom of the Governor Office Building (GOB), in Jefferson City. The GOB is located two blocks east of the Capitol Building, at the corner of Capitol Avenue and Madison Street, and across from the City parking garage.

TNP AND eMINTS PROGRAMS

TNP -- The application packet for FY03 will be distributed by early next week. With the tight budget, districts should note that the annual user fees will not be discounted this year and additional bandwidth will only be available on a cost-recovery basis. Districts not in compliance with CIPA will be assessed for the lost e-rate discount, at the rate of \$1070 per T1 connection.

eMINTS -- The first class of teachers (FY00) will be graduating, leaving training slots open for approximately 50 districts and 100 teachers. Applicants from new districts will receive priority. We

anticipate being able to approve ~40 districts with Title II funding. [See federal funding section above.] The remaining slots (training only slots) will be opened to established eMINTS districts wanting to expand. The MOREnet eMINTS staff will handle details about "Training Only" applications.

Census of Technology

The April cycle of core data collection is devoted to the Census. Screen 30 is the district survey; Screen 31 collects building data. Districts were to complete the screens and submit the data by April 30. NOTE that the **deadline has been extended to May 15**. As mentioned above, the COT data are used for various purposes, to help set and monitor state and national goals, secure funding, and guide future programs and services.

E-rate Program and Internet Filtering Requirement

E-RATE

Funding Year 2001 (previously referred to as Year 4) – On March 13, the Schools and Libraries Division issued the last bi-weekly wave of funding commitment letters. Wave 15 committed over \$147.6 million, bringing the total commitment to over \$2.25 billion in over 27,000 letters. The funding letters include discounts for Priority 2 requests (internal connections) down to the 86% discount level. Funding data is featured on the SLD website at <http://www.sl.universalservice.org/>.

Funding Year 2002 (AKA Year 5) – This Funding Year 2002 of the E-rate program will provide support for services delivered from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003. By the end of the application window, SLD received over 36,000 applications requesting an estimated \$5.78 billion. The SLD issued the first wave of letters for Funding Year 2002 on April 24, 2002. Additional waves will be issued every other week until the process is complete. The first wave committed \$189 million in more than 9,300 letters to schools and libraries. Funding only applies for PRIORITY ONE services (telecommunications services Internet access). Funding for internal connections will be delayed until the SLD can determine funding ability.

Funding Year 2003 – The FCC Form 470 for Year 03 (July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004) is now available for filing. Applicants can file online or can file manually by downloading and printing Form 470 and Instructions from the SLD Forms section on the SLD web site. While the form was only slightly changed, the directions have been significantly updated to provide useful information.

INTERNET FILTERING

World Wide Technology (WWT) will be emailing districts this week with the new pricing information. POs are to be sent back to WWT by no later than May 15. At this time, it is likely that the **state subsidy will reduce these prices by another 90 percent**.

Education Technology Planning

NEW STATE EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

The new Missouri Education Technology Strategic Plan, 2002-2006 is now posted on the web site. It will be presented to the State Board in June.

STATE and LOCAL TECH PLANS

State Educational Agencies and local districts are required to have board-adopted and state-adopted technology plans that address the new federal technology goals. Title II D program guidelines state that district can be given one year to meet this requirement. The next review of district technology plans is scheduled for April 2003. Districts that use our technology planning web site and address the scoring criteria will meet the new Title II D requirements and the updated state technology plan. All districts are encouraged to review the state plan and the scoring guide, to identify the areas where the district's plan needs to be updated.



TCO Calculator

<http://www.iaete.org/tco/>

The K-12 TCO Calculator, recently released by the Institute for the Advancement of Emerging Technologies in Education (IAETE), is a free online tool that helps schools estimate and evaluate their total cost of ownership (TCO) for technology products and services. The calculator enables school technology planners and administrators to estimate the cost of a five-year plan and see the long-range impact their decision will have on their technology and overall school budgets. Estimated costs include breakdowns that show cost per student, projections for hardware and software purchases based on attendance figures, replacement costs based on average equipment life span, and much more. Results are displayed in table and graph formats.



Technology Plan Reading 2002

The 2002 Technology Plan reading took place on April 19. There were 22 plans submitted. After reader training and a discussion of the new scoring guide, the 19 readers were grouped and read the plans on site. To be approved for the Technology Acquisition and Enhancement Grant (TAG) and Title IID grants, technology plans must receive a total of 75 points, with no section scoring less than three points. For "e-rate only" approval, a plan must score at least 60 points.

A copy of the scoring guide, complete with reader comments, will be sent to each of the submitting districts. Districts scoring below the cut off will be given the opportunity to achieve the needed points by rewriting and resubmitting those portions scoring less than four points.

Assistance in writing and improving your plan can be found at

<http://www.dese.state.mo.us/divimprove/instrtech/techplan/techplan.htm/>.

Choose "Creating a Technology Plan" for a detailed explanation of what is expected for each section, as well as, guiding questions, resources and templates to guide you through the writing. If further help or explanation is needed contact Kathy Parris at (573) 526-1596.



MOREnet's New Website Going Live

--Submitted by Sandra Falloon, MOREnet Communications, MOREnet
NEW, but Still at <http://www.more.net>

MOREnet recently launched a new version of its website though the URL remains <http://www.more.net>. The new website has been redesigned and reorganized to better help users find the information they need. The site has been divided into topical sections shown in the menu bar displayed near the top of every page. Each section is further divided into areas, allowing users to "drill down" logically to find the information they want, while at the same time providing descriptive information at a glance as a useful guide.

The information on the website has been divided according to the nature of its content, no longer according to MOREnet's organizational structure, to make it easier for users to navigate through the site. Standardized navigation, a "bread crumb" trail navigation, an improved search engine, a site map and a list of relocated pages make both exploring and finding specific information easier.

Another new feature that helps users find information of special interest to them is the Communities pages (<http://www.more.net/about/communities/>). Community pages are filled with links to information located throughout MOREnet's website as well as offsite, links of particular interest to specially defined communities of users – including users in higher education, K-12 education, librarians, technicians, MOREnet contacts and others.

Take a few moments to wander through MOREnet's new site. When you have had a chance to become acquainted with the new organization, visit the New Website Feedback page (<http://www.more.net/feedback.html>) and fill out the brief form located there. New Website Feedback icons are located at various points around the website; feel free to fill out the form whenever you have useful comments.



Video Conferencing Clip

--Submitted by Hank Niederhelm, Associate Director of Operations, MOREnet

A video clip created by the DoIT Center at the University of Wisconsin illustrates the benefits of and explains how video conferencing works. It also makes some suggestions on what to do such as speak loudly and clearly, mute microphones when not speaking, arrive early to test and even talks about what to wear. Check out on the MOREnet video web page at <http://pubs.doit.wisc.edu/f/pte/video/index2.htm> to view this clip.



eMINTS Summer Sampler Registration Open

--Submitted by Monica Beglau, eMINTS Instructional Program Team Leader, MOREnet

Online registration for eMINTS Summer Samplers is open. Complete information about the Summer Samplers, locations, dates and cost is available at

<http://www.more.net/services/conferences/summersampler2002>

Registration is first-come, first-served with priority given to non-eMINTS teachers in grades K-8. Submitting a registration form generates an invoice that is sent to the organization or individual identified as being responsible for payment.

A weeklong professional development opportunity will be provided for Missouri educators by the eMINTS Cluster Instructional Specialists who work with teachers in the eMINTS Program. The eMINTS Summer Sampler provides a concentrated learning experience for non-eMINTS elementary and middle school educators who wish to improve their knowledge and skills in using multimedia technology to enhance inquiry-based learning.

The eMINTS Program is a joint effort of MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) and DESE (Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education). The eMINTS Program places cutting-edge technology in selected third- and fourth-grade classrooms across the state and provides teachers with extensive professional development and in-classroom support in learning to use the technology in ways that enhance inquiry-based learning.

For more information about dates, times, places and the cost of the eMINTS Summer Sampler in your area go to:

<http://www.more.net/services/conferences/summersampler2002/index.html>

For questions about the Sampler itself, contact emints-info@more.net.

For questions about the registration process, contact conferences@more.net.



Fall Technology Leadership Academy Registration

<http://www.successlink.org/tla>

SuccessLink, in cooperation with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, is sponsoring the "Technology Leadership Academy" for Missouri. The Academy will assist administrators in developing the knowledge and skills

necessary to use technology as a tool for more effective and efficient leadership in their schools. This program is open to all Missouri building principals and superintendents (Public and non-public schools).

The goals of the Technology Leadership Academy will help you:

- ?? Focus on leadership skills in technology
- ?? Improve classroom use of technology
- ?? Increase student performance
- ?? Assess strengths and needs of your staff/students in the area of technology
- ?? Develop a practical and useful technology plan
- ?? Develop a network of colleagues

Registration for the second Technology Leadership Academy (TLA) is open now. For more information and to register online go to <http://www.successlink.org/tla>



Anti-litter Video Contest for Missouri Teens

--Submitted by Lorna Domke, Missouri Department of Conservation, No More Trash Campaign Coordinator

www.nomoretrash.org

A litter-free Missouri is the dream of a new statewide campaign getting underway. Missourians ages 16-24 can help by creating their own 30-second video ads against littering.

The best of these will receive \$200 awards and be used to promote the campaign. Video entries can be sent to: No MOre Trash! 9229 Ward Parkway, Suite 225, Kansas City, MO 64114. The first deadline is June 1, but awards will be made each month or so into September 2002.

The Missouri Department of Transportation, which spends more than \$6 million each year in litter pickup, joined with the Conservation Department to kickoff the campaign with TV commercials aimed at 16 to 24-year olds. They will begin by May 1, 2002 in St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia, Jefferson City and Cape Girardeau on cable programming such as Comedy Central, MTV and BET.

"Although we're targeting the age group most likely to litter with our first ads, we're hoping to get the word out to everyone," said Lorna Domke, MDC's No MOre Trash campaign coordinator. The website, www.nomoretrash.org will be an important clearinghouse for news on efforts around the state and on ways to get involved for schools, communities and individuals."

To help spread the message in a grassroots way, Governor Holden convened the Anti-litter Advisory Board. Valerie McEuen, a teacher at Bourbon Elementary and member of the Adopt-A-Highway program, provides a valuable teacher's perspective. Other board members include government, private and non-profit organizations. They'll work to spark the litter-free dream in the minds of friends, neighbors, colleagues and customers.

For more facts on litter in Missouri and what can be done about it, visit www.nomoretrash.org.



The 2002 National Telecommunications Partnership Awards

The SBC National Telecommunications Partnership Awards is the result of a multi-year relationship between the National Association of PARTNERS IN EDUCATION and the SBC foundation. The awards recognize outstanding work in facilitating the integration of telecommunications technology into education. This year, focus of this program is on **education**

partnerships that help teachers fully integrate telecommunications technology to substantially change the way teaching and learning takes place. Through this awards program, SBC and PARTNERS IN EDUCATION will identify, recognize, publicize and disseminate information on outstanding partnerships that help teachers integrate technology into the fabric of their curriculum and instructional delivery. Applications must be postmarked by June 17, 2002. For more information about the 2002 award, visit www.partnersineducation.org



Successful Distance Learning Month

--Submitted by Lora Smith, MoDLA Executive Director

<http://www.modla.org/>

The Missouri Distance Learning Association, in cooperation with the St. Louis Cooperating School District, recently completed a series of nine videoconferences offered to sites around the state to increase the awareness of learning activities that can be accomplished at a distance and to celebrate Distance Learning Month. Ruth Litman-Block of CSD coordinated the presentations with Mike Grudzinski (Distance Learning Manager at Northwest Missouri State University), who handled site registration and scheduled the videoconferences with MOREnet. Pat Hunt, MOREnet Video Services Manager, and Mark Fairley worked with the group to ensure connectivity of the interactive video sessions. The results were more than MoDLA had hoped to achieve in this initial series. Comments from the participants included phrases like "I didn't know we could do this" to "I was very impressed with the presentations." Everyone was pleased with the results.

The topics presented included:

- ?? *Using Videoconferencing in the Curriculum* by Ruth Block & Martha Bogart
- ?? *Introduction to the National Archives and Record Administration* by Lee Ann Potter in Washington D.C.
- ?? *Cyberbite...Creating Adventure Stories with PowerPoint* by Nancy George
- ?? *The Discovery Center...a hands-on museum in Springfield* by Justine Lines
- ?? *Cyberbite...Using Revision Tools in Microsoft Word* by Martha Bogart
- ?? *Cyberbite...Video on Demand, Digital On-line Library* by Linda Chiles

The results indicated an increased need to continue this type of sharing across the statewide MOREnet system. Pat Hunt encouraged MoDLA in its efforts to demonstrate the capabilities of interactive videoconferencing and sharing ideas across the state via this means. Future efforts to communicate using technology might include video-streaming. Mike Flynn, President of MoDLA and Lora Smith, Executive Director of MoDLA were pleased with the response from across the state and promised further endeavors like this to expand the horizons of learning at a distance. As the quote goes, "You don't have to be there to be there today." For more information about videoconferencing and how to get involved, contact:

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404 Humphreys

Central Missouri State University

Warrensburg, MO 64093

phone: 660-543-8724

fax: 660-543-8333

e-mail: losmith@cmsu1.cmsu.edu or visit the MoDLA web site at: <http://www.modla.org/>



METPA Spring Technology Forum

--Submitted by Doug Allen, METPA Communication Officer

The Missouri Education Technology Professionals Association (METPA) announces a spring Technology Forum to be held at the Ike Skelton Training Center, Missouri National Guard Headquarters, Jefferson City, Missouri. The forum will have both a morning session and a repeat of the session in the afternoon.

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Copyright Issues and Technology (co-sponsored by Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL))

Copyright law is everybody's business. Is your district complying with the myriad of laws regarding technology and copyright? Attend this forum to find out more information.

Time: 10:00 am –noon
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Visit METPA's new website at <http://www.metpa.org>

State Educational Technology Funding Forum-- Deborah Sutton, Director of Instructional Technology, DESE, gave updates on Missouri Technology Funding—what is still there, what is gone, and what state technology dollars you can expect to receive for next year? Visit the METPA website to download the PowerPoint presentation held on April 18, 2002.



Engaged Learning

--Submitted by Eric Cress, President, Cress Productions (800) 637-2449

www.cressco.com/training.htm

eric@cressco.com

The simplest way to engage students is to ask them, "What really matters?" Once they answer that question, they have given you the keys to their motivation. Motivation comes from having meaningful goals. Will they change their answer? Of course. But once you have their answer you can turn students who float through school into highly motivated students.

Here is how. Go to one of the Internet lesson plan databases and start with the student's hobby then add your topic. If you teach 5th grade math and have a reluctant learner who told you baseball is their current interest, you can find lesson plans on the Internet that connects the two.

Let me share an example of how one teacher turned around a reluctant learner.

March 12, 2002

Dear Eric,

Thank you for sharing your expertise in using the Internet to motivate students. Perhaps you'd be interested to know how your class changed one of my fifth-grade students.

Zack, (not his real name), has asthma which often results in absences. Sometimes he uses this as an excuse to miss class. So when you asked me to think of an average child who could do better, Zack was at the top of my list. Maybe I could accomplish two goals: increase his performance and improve his attendance.

Zack stayed after school one afternoon to catch up on his make-up work. During the course of the conversation, I asked him about his special interests. He named two—hunting and eating. Together we decided to meet again the next afternoon to begin a search on the Internet. When he found one about M&M's, Zack was ready to roll. This particular lesson plan had worksheets already available for teaching mean, median, and mode. Zack returned the next morning all

excited because he already knew how to figure the mean. He quickly understood median and mode. Zack took charge of helping other students around him. It was such a change from the unmotivated boy who had been sitting in my room day after day. Zack has a new comment now. "Does anyone need help? I like helping." What a change in Zack's performance, attitude and attendance.

Thank you, Eric, for helping teachers reach those reluctant learners who so desperately need some extra motivation. Computers, Internet, and technology may be our greatest tools in helping them reach to the future successfully.
Sincerely,

◆ Missouri Schools in the News

Pulaski County R-IV

The Technology and Library Resources Staff of Pulaski County R-IV School District in Richland, Missouri is proud to introduce our Online Library as our newest web resource. Access to the online library is through www.bear.k12.mo.us and by selecting the Online Library link. This site features the Athena Webserver Card Catalog. This resource allows individuals to search materials at either the Elementary or High School Libraries from any Internet-accessible computer. Also available on this site are Web-based versions of the SIRs Research Database, the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, EbscoHOST, Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary and Thesaurus, and World Book Online.

North Nodaway R-VI

Beccy Baldwin, elementary school principal in North Nodaway R-VI School District in Hoskins and Pickering MO was featured in the March 2002 District Administration. The topic was "It Takes TIME"—An article describing twenty tips for making professional development a priority in your district. Congratulations Beccy!

eMINTS

Janice Friesen, MOREnet's area instructional specialist, was featured in the April 2002 Technology and Learning. The article covered "Digital Equity: It's Not Just About Access Anymore." Visit "References from the Digital Equity Article" on www.techlearning.com (Internet keyword: techlearning equity) to check out the article. Congratulations Janice!

◆ Learning With Technology

--Featuring North Mercer R-III, Marion C. Early R-V and Pettis County R-V

North Mercer R-III

North Mercer R-III Elementary Students Excited About Their New Computer Lab

(Picture: Students in Mrs. Palmer's Sixth Grade Class Get An Early Introduction To The New Mobile Computer Lab)



Imagine having a world of knowledge available at each student's fingertip. Once this was only a dream, but now it has become a reality for the students of North Mercer Elementary through the state of Missouri's Technology Literacy Challenge Fund. This new mobile computer lab is designed to bring hands-on computer technology to an entire

class, at the same time, in the regular classroom.

During the implementation of the mobile lab, teachers were trained on the software and potential uses for this technology in their classroom. Since the beginning of the school year, the North Mercer elementary teachers have used the computers for numerous activities. The first and sixth grade classes have gotten together and written books and stories using a program called interactive reading and writing. The students not only become familiar with the technology required, but learn to work collaboratively with students of different ages to complete the project.

Students in the fourth grade classroom have taken a virtual tour around Missouri using the wireless Internet component. With this in mind, everyone has gained a lot of the necessary information to perform well on this year's MAP test taken later in the school year.

The fifth grade students are on the computers daily to look up current events that are occurring in the world around them. During this time, students are to look up some of the "Headline Stories" as well as navigate to check to see what the local weather will be in the upcoming days. In addition to this, they geographically discuss the United States weather patterns, and the weather conditions in different locations around the country.

One of the more exciting activities that the students have enjoyed is an interactive training CD known as Kidspiration. Kidspiration helps students see, organize, and develop their own ideas. Students build their confidence in creating stories, organizing information, understanding concepts and expressing and sharing their thoughts. Elementary principal Dan Owens states, "Our elementary had slipped behind the high school, technologically, during the past few years, and the addition of the mobile computer lab has been a major asset in preparing our students for the innovations of the next decade and beyond." For more information about the grant call 660-382-4212.

Marion C. Early R-V

Almost two years ago our district began the "Connected With Technology" project funded through a TLCF Infrastructure grant. Our goals were to increase core curriculum and computer knowledge of students in grades K-9 by increasing access to multimedia capable computers and insuring that teachers received adequate computer training.

With TLCF funds our district has added a computer lab in the elementary building with computers, a projector, printer and scanner. We were also able to place a computer in every K-9 classroom (a cause for great celebration in our district). However, this has just been the beginning of our project. Training for teachers provided through grant funds has allowed the project to flourish. During the initial year, teachers attended training sessions on general computer operations (for the beginner), Introduction to Windows, using the Internet in the classroom, Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. During the second year, teachers have been trained on PowerPoint and more intensive Internet research skills. Training sessions have included using search engines effectively, online database training, and using Web Quests.

Students have also received training. Every 7-9th grade student attended a three-day orientation at the beginning of the current school year. They learned to search the Internet more effectively and to evaluate information found on the World Wide Web. Elementary students have learned computer skills and terminology. Some of the projects that teachers have done with students have been very exciting and that excitement is catching on with everyone. First grade students did research on flags and used paint to create their own flag. Fourth grade students studied Missouri by producing PowerPoint presentations. Sixth grade students are currently working on presentations about Egypt. The learning that is going on here is endless.

During the past two years teachers and students have come a long way in computer skills. The grant has allowed us to not only purchase equipment, but ensure that the equipment will be used.

It is definitely an exciting time at Marion C. Early. For more information contact Shannon Snow at srm024@mail.connect.more.net

Pettis County R-V

What is technology? What does it mean to go "Hi-Tech?" The definition of these terms mean different things to different people depending on your technology comfort level. To the students at Pettis County R-V School District it meant many different things also. The school district was fortunate enough to receive a Technology Literacy Challenge Grant in 2000-2001 and with the funding was able to move towards a higher technology level.

Before the grant acquisition, most of the classrooms in the junior high school had no computer access. This was the place to start. Thirty multimedia computers were purchased and placed throughout nine classrooms. Color printers were also purchased. This purchase was the majority of the funds received for the first year. Many other things needed to be done to prepare for these computers. Tables were purchased for the computers and printers, the cabling was run, electrical outlets were added to some locations, and hubs were installed. A projector was purchased to use in the classrooms or in other situations. Most of the equipment was up and running by the end of March.

Teachers, students and staff were excited to be able to have computers for their immediate use. This was a new technology source for many of them. Technology generated lessons increased about 80%. Research assignments were only the beginning. Teachers were able to assign Internet activities that corresponded with their lessons that had not been possible without the computer availability.

With the second year funding, it was decided to take a look at other technology besides computers. Each of the nine classrooms involved with the grant were evaluated in a needs assessment. The purchase of televisions, VCR's and PC-to-TV converters were considered as a "high tech" need. These were all mounted in the classrooms and connected to the appropriate services. Again these were pieces of technology that had not been available previously.

In trying to keep up with hi-tech as the grant suggests, the classroom teachers were assigned another piece of technology. Personal handheld devices were purchased for each teacher. Software was also added. Teachers are able to do lesson plans outside the classroom with these Palm Pilots. The goal of this purchase was for the teachers to learn how to incorporate more technology into the curriculum. Training on how to use the PDA was given individually so that teachers could adapt it to their own learning situation. They have enjoyed being able to do work at home and bring it to school with the touch of a button.

Moving onwards in the hi-tech area meant getting equipment that has never been used in our school before. Something new and different for everyone because changes and advances keeps one's technology level on a constant wave of learning. With this concept in mind, it was decided to move into unfamiliar technology and purchase digital video editing equipment. The purpose of this purchase was to be able to offer students and staff a new avenue with which to explore. This equipment is available for all to use and learn. It is hoped that teachers will assign lessons that go beyond paper and pencil activities. The productions of movies, slide shows or video journals are all a possibility.

Maintaining current software is always hard. A network version of Microsoft Office 2000 was purchased and installed. With this program, students and staff are able to learn the many features and functions it has to offer.

To update a few other areas of technology, the second year grant money went towards other purchases. A new laminator was acquired for the purpose of displaying student work as well as for teacher usage in the classroom. An additional laptop computer was added so that the

projector could be used anywhere in the district. An additional digital camera was also purchased.

Training for staff and the technology coordinator was also considered to be a high priority. When introducing new ideas, concepts and equipment it is imperative that everyone is comfortable with it in order for anything to be accomplished. When staff works together to make the transition to incorporate new ideas, then the students are more comfortable and willing to try.

The Technology Literacy Challenge Grant has given the district a chance to move onward and upward in the technology department. It has provided the students and staff with the equipment and training needed to become advanced in this "hi-tech" world. For more information contact Becky Chancellor at ied030@mail.connect.more.net



Interactive Distance Learning in Action

--Submitted by Nancy Steele, High School Principal, Putnam Co R-I

EDUCATION PLUS NETWORK

Education Plus Network (EPN) was established in 1992 as the first fiber optic distance learning network in the state of Missouri. This network first provided two-way simultaneous classroom instruction for Green City R-I, Milan C-2, and Putnam County R-I Schools during the 1993-94 school year. The Adair County R-I School District became a member of EPN in 1995.

In 1992, the boards of education of the original three schools entered into a ten-year lease with Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company and Alltel Service Company. This agreement was updated with the addition of the Adair County R-I School and the establishment of the Oregon Farmers' Tariff. Each school district dedicates the VIDEO grant funds and also contributes local monies for financial support of the network. EPN and the individual school districts also utilize the funding available through E-rate.

EPN is completing the ninth year of providing dual-credit and advanced high school courses to these four rural school districts in northern Missouri. Undergraduate and graduate level college courses, University of Missouri Extension course offerings, Rural Health Education Agency classes, and community general-interest and safety classes have also been available for community members during the evening and summers.

The four school districts have the same school calendar and three of the four districts use the same bell schedule during the school day. The course offerings for each school year are established after surveying the students' requests. The EPN courses are taught by high school teachers as part of their regular teaching schedule. The EPN Coordinator works with the governing board, two representatives from each district's board of education, administrators, and teachers to establish consistency and continuity between each school district. Our network has been compared to one large school district comprised of four high schools on different campuses.

EPN has become an established method of instruction for our four districts. Teachers are very experienced and have become very comfortable with the daily delivery of this type of distance learning to high school students. The problems associated with the network are very minimal. Actually the classroom functions smoother than most classrooms which rely heavily on technology. The problems usually only include a student's assignment being misplaced or grade reports not ready for another school. These problems can typically occur in a traditional classroom setting.

Education Plus Network has provided the students and community members of Green City, Milan, Novinger, and Unionville extended educational opportunities. We are currently looking to renew our contract with the telephone companies and make the necessary equipment upgrades

to further enhance our distance learning network. EPN has grown and developed into a valued and integral component in our educational process.

Professional Development Tip of the Month

--Submitted by Jane Howland, Ph.D., School of Information Science & Learning Technologies,
College of Education--University of Missouri, Columbia

Recommended sites for evaluating Professional Development and the way technology is integrated into the curriculum and your classrooms.

An Educator's Guide to Evaluating The Use of Technology in Schools and Classrooms

<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/EdTechGuide/>

techLEARNING - The resource for educational technology leaders

<http://www.techlearning.com/>

and particularly,

http://www.techlearning.com/content/reviews/articles/hotlist_plan.html

Resources for planning and administration

ZDNet: Help & How-To

<http://www.Zdnet.com/zdhelp/>

Technology Program Evaluation

<http://www.seirtec.org/eval.html>

AAHE sponsors an organization called the Teaching, Learning & Technology (TLT) Group, which has the Flashlight project. In 1992, the FlashlightTM Program began developing an evaluation "tool kit" of validated survey items, cost analysis methods, and other resources that educational institutions could use to study and steer their own uses of technology.

<http://www.tltgroup.org/programs/elephant.html>

Copyright Question of the Month

Q. May an educator, substitute teacher, or student teacher make a request for an off-air taping of a program they have previously **used** even though they did not originally request the taping?

A. NO If the teacher wishes to repeat the use of the program, a commercial copy of the program must be rented or purchased.

Mark Your Calendar

April 28-May 4	Global Science and Technology Week
May 1	Newsline published online
1	Last day to obligate funds for salaries, benefits and purchase services for TAG, VIDEO, and IDL Grants
1	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (1:00-4:00 p.m.)
	State Fair Community College
	Yeater Learning Center, Media Forum Room
	3201 West 16 th Street
	Sedalia, MO

1	METPA Leadership Awards applications due
2	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (1:00-4:00 p.m.) Cowan Civic Center 500 Elm Street Lebanon, MO
3	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (9:00 a.m.-Noon) NRTC Bowman building 2015 North West Street Nevada, MO
7	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (9:00 a.m.-Noon) Kirksville Jr. High Auditorium 1515 South Cottage Grove Kirksville, MO
7	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (1:00-4:00 p.m.) Kay Porter Theatre Popular Bluff Senior High Campus 1300 Victory Lane Popular Bluff, MO
8	Truman's Birthday—State Holiday
9	MO Rural Opportunities Council Telecommunications/Education Committee Meeting (1:15-3:30 p.m.) Governor's Office Building—Room 316, Jefferson City, MO
9	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (9:00 a.m.-Noon) Southwest Center for Educational Excellence 600 S. Ellis, Suite B Webb City, MO
9	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (1:00-4:00 p.m.) Mountain View Community Center 125 West 1 st Street Mountain View, MO
10	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (9:00 a.m.-Noon) The Library Center, Auditorium 4653 South Campbell Springfield, MO
14	METPA Forum on "Copyright Issues and Technology" <u>2 Sessions</u> : 10-12 and 1:00-3:00 p.m Ike Skelton Training Center, Jefferson City, MO
14	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (9:00 a.m.-Noon) Pike County Fairgrounds Bowling Green, MO
15	FER's for TAG, VIDEO and IDL Grants due
15	Census of Technology due online
15	FGM/Title II, D Workshop (9:00 a.m.-Noon) Instructional Media Laboratory Parkway School District 12657 Fee Fee Road Creve Coeur, MO
16	Title II D Competitive (eMINTS) Grant Information Workshop (10-noon) Governor's Office Building Ballroom Jefferson City, MO
25	Newsline articles due
27	Memorial Day—State Holiday
June 1	Newsline published online
5-6	Title II D eMINTS Grant Reading (SuccessLink, Jefferson City, MO)
25	Newsline articles due

Upcoming 2002 Conferences

June 17-19	Teaching and Learning Conference Holiday Inn Select, Columbia, MO
June 17-19	NECC 2002: Nexus in Texas San Antonio, Texas http://www.neccsite.org
July 9-30	MODLA Conference Radison Hotel, Branson, MO www.modla.org
July 29-31	McREL Rural Technology Institute Omaha, NE http://www.mcrel.org/rt
October 6-8	Missouri Educational Technology Conference Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, MO Missouri Research and Education Network Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
October 13-15	Joint Iowa ASCD ITEC Conference Des Moines, IA www.itec-ia.org

From the Mailbag

2002 McREL Rural Technology Institute

<http://www.mcrel.org/rti>

2002 McREL Rural Technology Institute will be held on July 29-31 in Omaha NE. Registration is FREE for rural school personnel in the states of Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. The RTI is designed to help address the unique challenges faced by schools in small communities that want to develop robust technology programs. The RTI is comprised of three strands (Administration, Curriculum, and Infrastructure Support) that have been designed to complement and support one another. Participating school districts are asked to send teams of three people to the RTI. Each individual will then attend one strand. For more information and online registration, see the website listed.

RuralEducation.org Connects Schools in Remote Areas With 21st-Century Tools

<http://www.ruraleducation.org>

The Rural Education Technology Alliance (RETA) is a new organization of five leading technology companies committed to working with rural educators and education organizations to assess and address the unique technology needs of rural schools. Member companies are San Jose, California-based Cisco Systems; Sun Microsystems, headquartered internationally; Charlotte NC based Learning Station; Polycom Inc. of Milpitas, California; and Alaska-based General Communications Inc. (GCI) By working with education organizations and rural leaders, RETA aims to help implement strategies to improve educational technology in rural areas. The new RETA web site contains a number of case studies from rural school entities that have implemented the products of the member groups creatively. Case studies include Oklahoma's OneNet distance learning network, the Arizona Department of Education's use of an ASP (application service provider) model to deliver software to the state's school districts, and Alaska's Northwest Arctic borough School District's satellite-based distance learning partnership with GCI, among others. The site also includes a searchable list of rural education resources.

Spring 2002 Technology Grant News

<http://www.technologygrantnews.com>

The Spring 2002 issue of Technology Grant News is available. It is mailed with a 12-page Supplement of Corporate Technology Funders. Technology Grant News received a positive review from American Libraries this year. It is for nonprofits, social service providers, libraries and museums, towns and cities, and schools and universities.

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Free Websites for Boston-Area Nonprofits
Mid-Hudson Valley Nonprofit Management Assistance

DIGITALDIVIDE@OWA.BENTON.ORG
(From the Digital Divide Newslist)

Local Grant Resources Might Be Closer Than You Think

<http://www.eschoolnews.org/resources/funding/>

From eSN School Technology ALERT

Monday, April 8, 2002 Volume 5, No.09

Deborah Ward, CFRE, is an independent grant writing consultant whose column appears in the monthly print edition of *eSchool News*.

She recently conducted a grants workshop for a group of educators in southern Illinois, in which the issue of local grant resources was raised. One of the participants assured her that he was from a very small, rural Illinois town that had no foundations, no corporations-in short, no resources to look to for grant possibilities. However, upon closer examination, he conceded that maybe there were resources he could check into! This article will look at some of the local resources that educators might have in their communities without even realizing they exist. For the full story, visit the website listed.

Pennsylvania's eTechPlanner

www.etechplanner.org

Pennsylvania created the eTechPlanner—an online technology planning tool that walks LEA's through a comprehensive, strategic technology planning model focused on education goals rather than technology goals. To view a list of the table of contents, or essentially the required tasks, visit: <http://www.etechplanner.org/overview/overview.asp> In addition, an online yearly technology inventory was added into the eTechPlanner to help districts enter their assessment phase by

simply clicking a button to import their most recent technology hardware and infrastructure data into the eTechPlanner. For more information contact Charlene Brennan at cbrennan@ciu20.org

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/dlt.htm>

Rural Utilities Service of the US Department of Agriculture is seeking applications for its Distance Learning and Telemedicine grant program. The DLT Program is designed to provide financing to meet the educational and health care needs of rural America through the use of advanced telecommunications technologies. Application must be postmarked no later than May 13. The 2002 Grant Application Guide can be downloaded at the above web site.

Collaborate Think.com

<http://about.think.com>

Looking for a place where your students can safely collaborate with others? Think.com is a free, protected, online community for K-12 students and teachers. Students can create and share their work online, while teachers can post lessons using visually stimulating and collaborative tools. It can also be used for hosting local professional development communities for teachers. Each think.com member has a personal Web page where they can create articles, upload images, and host discussions. Think.com helps schools jump-start technology integration in the classroom and thereby enriches student learning. Sign up your school free of charge and free of advertising provided by Oracle Corporation.

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

http://www.ehr.nsf.gov/pres_awards/

The Presidential awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) established in 1983, honors the nation's leading K-12 mathematics and science teachers. In mid-March, President Bush announced the recipients of the 2001 Presidential Awards, one elementary and one secondary mathematics teacher, and one elementary and one secondary science teacher from each state and jurisdiction. Awardees were selected from more than 600 nominees by a national panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators. For a complete listing of this year's awardees, visit the web site.

Virtual Job Shadowing

http://www.jobshadow.org/about_program/about_program.html

Job shadowing is designed to give students an up-close look at the world of work and to answer that question. To extend the concept, a "virtual job shadowing" initiative allows students anywhere in the country with access to the Internet to shadow working professionals online.

Source: National Job Shadow Coalition

Exploring the Future of Learning

<http://www.thinkquestlive.org>

ThinkQuest and the University of Washington are hosting a hands-on, in-depth exploration of today's most promising emerging technologies and pedagogies—and the opportunities and challenges they bring to the future of learning. The event, planned for Seattle on July 20-21, 2002 combines "The Exploratory," an interactive technology and learning exploration laboratory, with "The Symposium." A series of in depth discussions, facilitated by a group of renowned thinkers in learning and technology.



Internet Sites of Interest

From Congress to the Classroom

Policy and Politics in Education

<http://www.ncrel.org/info/nlp/lpsp02/left.htm>

No Teacher Left Behind: Understanding and Preparing for the New Education Legislation

Accountability, Teacher Quality, Funding, and More-What Does the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Mean for Local Educators?

<http://www.nrel.org/info/nlp/lpsp02/homework.htm>

With a little research, teachers can and should participate in the shaping of local education policy.

Books4School

<http://www.books4school.com/eng-span.htm>

Recommendations for summer reading, useful web resources, plus English-Spanish book lists (organized by grade level). The book list may be accessed directly from this link.

Another MAP site

<http://www.indep.k12.mo.us/pdc/MAPS/projetmap.htm>

Reference

<http://www.refdesk.com>

Science Fair

<http://members.aol.com/ScienxFair/ideas.htm#chem>

Lots of science fair ideas!

Online Timeline Maker

http://www.teach-nology.com/web_tools/materials/timelines/

Volcanos

Online Simulation

<http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs/kids/fun/volcano/volcano.html>

Then lick on "To Volcano World" at the bottom and go to the kids' area for interactive tours and games.

eThemes--Interactive sites on Volcanoes

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000059.html>

More eThemes to check out...

Internet Safety

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S000000652.html>

These sites have tips and advice on how children and young adults should use the Internet safely. Includes tips on surfing, visiting chat rooms, and not giving our personal information. There are online games and activities that teach lessons about Internet safety.

Canada

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S000000655.html>

These sites about Canada include topics such as history, land, climate, economy, and people. Watch videos and view photos of this country. Learn about the Canadian flag and listen to the national anthem. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on Arctic Inhabitants.

Ventriloquism

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S000000649.html>

These sites cover the history of ventriloquism, basic ventriloquism skills, and biographical information about some well-known ventriloquists. Includes audio and video clips, plus hands-on exercises.

Democracy: Citizenship and Community Responsibility

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S000000020.html>

These sites are about the rights and responsibilities of members of society. Includes ideas for getting children involved in their communities and for understanding their rights. Includes links to eThemes Resources on historic documents, communities, the democratic process, and elections.

English: Basic Language Skills for ESL Students

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000380.html>

These sites are full of English word learning games and quizzes with interesting images and sounds. There are also some simple stories and English survival skills for kids.

Geography: Oceans

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000288.html>

These sites are about the oceans and seas of the world. Topics include habitat, environment, tides, currents, temperatures, depths, careers in oceanography, etc.. There are many photos and videos. Includes links to eThemes Resources on Animals: Ocean and Sea Creatures and Geography: Continents.

Literature: "Ralph S. Mouse" by Beverly Cleary

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000643.html>

These sites focus on the book "Ralph S. Mouse." Includes activities, lesson plans, and an interactive quiz. There are links to eThemes Resources on author Beverly Cleary, mice, and book activities.

Animals: Mice

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000644.html>

Learn about different species of mice, their physical characteristics, and their habitat. Includes some images and ideas for crafts and classroom activities.

Animals: Ocean and Sea Creatures

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000626.html>

Learn more about the hundreds of creatures that live in the oceans and seas. Includes many photos and videos, audio files, and real-time images from Webcams. The animals covered include whales, jellyfish, dolphins, sea turtles, seahorses, and more. Includes links to eThemes Resources on Geography: Oceans and Animals: Sharks.

Photography

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000630.html>

These sites for older students contain information about the history of photography and the photographic process. Read biographies of famous photographers, browse through a timeline of important events, and learn how cameras and film work. Includes an online simulation that demonstrates the importance of shutter speed and aperture. There are online games and videos, plus many historic and modern photos. Includes instructions for making a pinhole camera, plus information on how to use photography to teach mathematical concepts.

Desert: Survival Skills

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000659.html>

These sites offer tips on how to survive in the desert. Topics include preparation, supplies, and what to do if you become stranded. Includes information about the Paris-Dakar Rally Race that goes through the Sahara Desert. Includes links to eThemes Resources on desert animals and Southwestern deserts.

Drama: "Romeo and Juliet"

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000661.html>

These sites focus on the play "Romeo and Juliet" and playwright William Shakespeare. Includes lesson plans, interactive quizzes, a virtual tour of the Globe Theatre, animation, video, a poetry scrambler, mask designs, and an eThemes Resource on "Drama for Kids." Also learn about Shakespeare's life, works, and the time period that he lived in.

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Animals: Black Bears

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000648.html>

These sites include many facts about black bears, including their diet, behavior, and habitat. Watch short movies about black bears, listen to audio files of their ferocious roars, and try the online quizzes and games. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on food chains.

Animals: Zoo Animals

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000647.html>

Visit zoos around the nation and learn about the animals who live in these man-made environments, including lions, tigers, elephants, and more. Includes a virtual zoo, interactive games and quizzes, animal videos and sounds, lesson plans, and craft ideas. Don't miss the Cyber Tiger site, where students act as a zookeeper, and Switcheroo Zoo, which allows students to create their own animals. Several eThemes resources on animals and their habitats are also included.

Updated and Revised:

Earth Day

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000072.html>

Sites are all about Earth Day. Get fun activity ideas and learn how to protect our environment. Find out how you can help celebrate Earth Day. eThemes Resources on recycling and pollution are included.

Pollution

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000211.html>

These interactive sites present environmental issues such as water and air pollution. Read about pollution and methods for addressing the problems. Includes games, maps, and interactive text. An eThemes Resource on the greenhouse effect is included.

Recycling

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000085.html>

Information on solid waste and recycling. Also learn about composting and how to do it yourself. Includes online games about recycling and project ideas for items you can make.

Transportation: Trains

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000481.html>

Read all about railroads, trains, and the transcontinental railroad. Sites contain historical photos, audio, video, Webcams, and interactive quizzes on this mode of transportation.

Transportation: Covered Wagons

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000482.html>

These sites explain the different types of covered wagons that were used by pioneers to traverse the Oregon Trail in the late 19th century. Topics include the materials, dimensions, usage, manufacturers, cost, and durability of this primitive mode of transportation.

Transportation: Grades 1-2

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000367.html>

These sites about transportation are for children in grades 1-2. Topics covered include automobiles, trains, boats, and aircraft. There are also images and interactive games about the forms of transportation and their histories.

Transportation: Overview

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000122.html>

These sites give a brief overview of the history of transportation. Topics covered include women in transportation, transportation clip art, museum information, and more. Links to eThemes Resources on specific modes of transportation are included.

Transportation: Mass Transit

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000393.html>

These sites feature information on various forms of mass transportation. Includes images of the different forms of public transit that are used all over the world.

Transportation: Automobiles

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000306.html>

These sites focus on automobile transportation. Read about the development of the first automobiles as well as the electric cars of today. Contains photographs of old and new cars. Also included is information about the parts of Animals: Black Bears

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Science Fair Projects: Ideas and Organization

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000252.html>

Some of these sites offer ideas for science experiments for kids. Other sites present more investigative ideas and guidelines for science fair projects. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on the scientific method.

Scientific Method

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000408.html>

These sites describe the general method used in scientific research. They also include the research process, the role and purpose of theory, online experiments, and science history. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on science fair projects.

Egypt: Ancient Culture

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000052.html>

These sites have information about Ancient Egyptian culture, society, and geography. Topics include the people, art treasures, hieroglyphic messages, mummies, and more. Includes links to eThemes Resources on Egyptian Pyramids and Modern Culture.

Egypt: Modern Culture and Lifestyle

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000197.html>

These sites have information about the people, popular attractions, foods, entertainment, and culture of modern Egypt. Sites contain images, video, and audio. There are links to eThemes Resources on Egyptian Pyramids, Culture Around the World, and Ancient Cultures.

Egypt: Mystery of the Pyramids

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000094.html>

Explore these sites to learn about Ancient Egyptian Pyramids. Includes lots of illustrations and interactive elements. Includes links to eThemes Resources on Math: Angles and Triangles, Modern Egypt, and Ancient Culture.

Animals: Desert

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000179.html>

Learn about relationships of desert animals and ecosystems. Most sites focus on the animals of North and South American deserts. Some relate to Saharan deserts. Sites include images, video, and audio.

MOREnet has been working with the Missouri State Archives and the Secretary of State's office to make some of our state's resources more available to Missouri teachers. The links below are an example of those efforts. The links below will be activated on Monday, April 29 and will take you to photos and information about the restored mural of Lewis and Clark in the Senate Chambers at the State Capitol

<http://www.more.net/programs/internet2/projects/lewis-clark.html>

<http://www.more.net/programs/internet2/projects/mural-lc.html>

<http://www.more.net/programs/internet2/images/muralrestoration/index.html>